in C band in India and therefore, a DTH Set Top Box, which receives signals in KU band, cannot be used for viewing pornographic channels available in C band unless the DTH service provider transmits these channels in its bouquet or alternatively the subscriber access the relevant CAM card and installs a huge C band receiving dish antenna. Further, the premises of M/s ASC Enterprises, the sole DTH licensee, were also inspected by a team deputed by this Ministry. It was observed that none of the pornographic channels were included in their DTH bouquet.

The DTH license conditions make it obligatory on the DTH licensee to adhere to the Programme and Advertisement codes and ensure that its facilities are not used for transmitting any objectionable or obscene content, messages or communication inconsistent with the laws of India. However, the Ministry is keeping a watch on this and related issues.

Policy on Print Media

1080. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA:
SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cabinet has decided to set up a Group of Ministers to study not only violations but also policy paradigm of print media in view of the emerging scenario and decisions taken by previous Government in 2002;

(b) if so, whether this group would consider amendments in the Press and Registration of Books Act for allowing Government to screen newspaper titles before being cleared by the Registrar of newspapers of India;

(c) if so, whether the panel has submitted its report to Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) by when its recommendations are likely to be considered?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) the Cabinet, while considering the Amendment

to Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867, has directed that the matter may in the first instance be considered by Group of Ministers (GoM).

(c) Not yet.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Deputation status in Prasar Bharati Corporation

1081. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have allowed deemed deputation status to the employees working in the Prasar Bharati Corporation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are planning not to absorb these employees in the Prasar Bharati Corporation;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) if not, the time schedule for absorbing them?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. This was done to clarify the status of the Government servants in Prasar Bharati and to enable Prasar Bharati to exercise necessary powers of a borrowing authority.

(c) to (e) Prasar Bharati is in the process of finalisation of recruitment rules and service conditions of its employees, which will give the option to the employees for absorption, as per the provisions of Prasar Bharati Act, 1990.

Crime Based Programmes on DD new channels

†1082. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards increasing broadcasting of Crime based programmes shown on news channels of Doordarshan; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.